



2015 SESSION

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

Business Page

[Signed by Chairman]

Roll Call

Standing Committee Reports

Tabled Bills

Fiscal Reports

Rolls Call Votes

Proxy Forms

Visitor Registrations

***Any other documents, which were submitted after the committee hearing has ended and/or was submitted late [within 48 hours], regarding information in the committee hearing.**

***Witness Statements that were not presented as exhibits.**

Montana Historical Society Archives

225 N. Roberts

Helena MT 59620-1201

2015 Legislative

E-Document Specialist Susie Hamilton

BUSINESS REPORT

**MONTANA SENATE
64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

SENATE AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION COMMITTEE

Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2015
Place: Capitol

Time: 3:00 PM
Room: 335

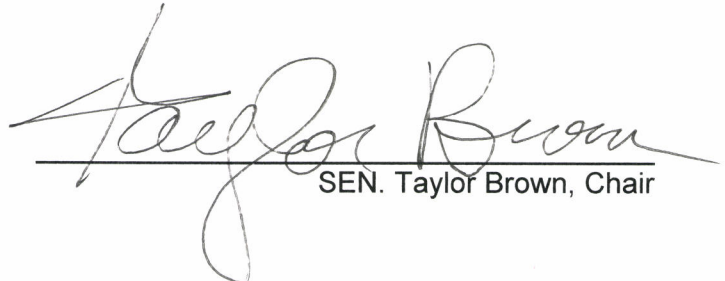
BILLS and RESOLUTIONS HEARD:

SB 285 - Generally revise laws relating to reporting of animal cruelty and abuse - Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore
SB 287 - Generally revise the selection process for the board of livestock - Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore
SJ 11 - Resolution requesting removal of brucella abortus from federal list - Sen. Mike Phillips

EXECUTIVE ACTION TAKEN:

HB 206 - Be concurred in as amended
HB 265 - Be concurred in
SB 232 - Do Pass as amended

Comments:


SEN. Taylor Brown, Chair

This is roll call for Senate Agriculture
February 17th 2015.

MONTANA SENATE
Roll Call
AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, AND IRRIGATION

DATE: 2/17/2015

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT/ EXCUSED</u>
SEN. TAYLOR BROWN, CHAIR		
SEN. BRIAN HOVEN, VICE CHAIR	X	
SEN. SHARON STEWART-PEREGOY	X	
SEN. KRISTIN HANSEN		X
SEN. JILL COHENOUR	X	
SEN. NELS SWANDAL	X	
SEN. JP POMNICHOWSKI	X	
SEN. MARY CAFERRO		X
SEN. DAVID HOWARD		X
SEN. CYNTHIA WOLKEN		X
SEN. ERIC MOORE	X	
Chairman Brown		X



SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 17, 2015

Page 1 of 1

Madame President:

We, your committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation report that **House Bill 206** (third reading copy -- blue) **be concurred in as amended.**

Signed: _____

Senator Taylor Brown, Chair

To be carried by Senator Jill Cohenour

And, that such amendments read:

1. Page 1, line 27.

Following: "~~Helena~~"

Insert: "in Montana"

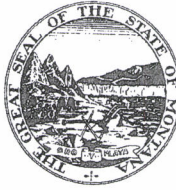
- END -

Committee Vote:

Yes 11, No 0

Fiscal Note Required X

HB0206001SC14415.spt



SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 17, 2015

Page 1 of 1

Madame President:

We, your committee on **Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation** report that **House Bill 265** (third reading copy -- blue) **be concurred in.**

Signed: _____

Senator Taylor Brown, Chair

To be carried by Senator Kris Hansen

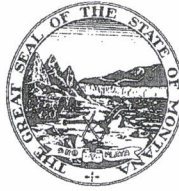
- END -

Committee Vote:

Yes 11, No 0

Fiscal Note Required X

HB0265001SC12600.spt



SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 17, 2015

Page 1 of 1

Madame President:

We, your committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation report that Senate Bill 232 (first reading copy -- white) do pass as amended.

Signed: _____

Taylor Brown
Senator Taylor Brown, Chair

And, that such amendments read:

1. Page 2, line 16.

Strike: "and that constitute recreational use"

- END -

Committee Vote:

Yes 11, No 0

Fiscal Note Required ____

SB0232001SC.spt

SENATE PROXY

I, Senator MARY CAFERRO, hereby authorize Senator

Stewart Perego to vote my proxy before the Senate

Ag + Irrigation meeting held on 2-17-2015, 2015.

Senator Signature

Feb. 17, 2015
Date

Said authorization is as follows: *(mark only one)*

- ☐ All votes, including amendments.
- ☐ All votes as directed below on the listed bills, and all other votes.
- ☐ Votes only as directed below.

[illegible]

MONTANA STATE SENATE
Visitors Register
SENATE AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 17, 2015

SJ 11 - Resolution requesting removal of brucella abortus from federal list

Sponsor: Sen. Mike Phillips

PLEASE PRINT

Name	Representing	Support	Oppose	Info
Nick Gevock	MWF	X		
Joe Cohen	SeVT	X		
Rhonda Lanier	Wolves of the Rockies	X		
Mike Mease	BFC	X		
Esse Bolton (not testifying)	BFC	X		
Kit Fischer	NWF	X		
Chelcie Gremer	MFBF	X		
Elena Evans	MACD	X		
Kurt AIX	MT Sportsmen Alliance	✓		
Ken McDonald	MFWP	X		
Emal Riv	MSGA	✓		
MARTY ZAWISKI	TEST OF LIV	✓		
Amy Seaman	Montana Audubon	X		

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

SENATE AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION COMMITTEE

Sponsor: **Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore**

PLEASE PRINT

[illegible]

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

SENATE AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION COMMITTEE

Sponsor: **Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore**

[illegible]

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

February 17, 2015

Additional Documents

SENATE: Agriculture

Date: 2/17/15

Bill No. SJ 11



PO Box 595, Helena, MT 59624
406.443.3949

www.mtaudubon.org

SJ 11-Request removal of brucella abortus from CDC & USDA for purposes of research

Sponsor: Sen. Mike Phillips

Committee: Senate Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation

Chairman Brown and Members of the Committee:

My name is Amy Seaman and I'm here representing the over 5,200 members of Montana Audubon in strong support of SJ 11.

It is our mission is to promote the appreciation, knowledge and conservation of Montana's native birds, other wildlife, and natural ecosystems to safeguard biological diversity for current and future generations.

Montana Audubon is supportive of moving this resolution forward for the following reasons:

1. Although other forms of brucella are highly dangerous to humans, the brucella abortus strain is highly treatable and rarely infects humans.
2. We need more research done on brucella abortus for the sake of livestock infections and treatment. There is not much known about the exact pathway that enables the Brucella abortus pathogen to evade the immune system. While this particular strain remains listed with both the USDA and CDC, scientists are unable to find out more about brucella abortus or how to further advance treatments or create a vaccine.
3. This resolution is being supported by both conservation and livestock organizations.

We urge a do-pass through Senate Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation. Thank you for your time today.

Senate Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation
February 20th, 2015



Additional Documents

SENATE: Agriculture

Date: 2 / 17 / 15
Bill No. SJ 11

PO Box 595, Helena, MT 59624
406.443.3949

www.mtaudubon.org

Dear Members of the Senate Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you on Tuesday, February 17th in support of Senate Resolution 11 to request the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to reconsider the appropriateness of listing brucella abortus as a bioterrorist agent to facilitate research into the transmission of the pathogen to cattle and domestic bison.

We feel that an oversight occurred in the process of moving forward the amended resolution concerning language about Brucella Abortus in Yellowstone National Park and the surrounding area.

We would respectfully request the resolution language be changed from:

"...in order to eradicate Brucella Abortus in Yellowstone National Park and the surrounding area..."

to

"...in order to reduce the occurrence of Brucella Abortus in Yellowstone National Park and the surrounding area..."

Thank you for your consideration to this matter and I look forward to appearing in front of the Senate Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation committee in the future.

Best regards,

Amy Seaman
Montana Audubon

Additional Documents

SENATE: Agriculture

Date: 2/17/15

Bill No. SJ 11



Greater Yellowstone Coalition

America's Voice for a Greater Yellowstone | LANDS • WATERS • WILDLIFE

February 17, 2015

Montana Senate
Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation Committee

Re: Senate Joint Resolution No. 11 - SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Taylor Brown and Members of the Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation Committee,

We write to express our support for Senate Joint Resolution No.11 ("SJ11"), requesting that the United States Department of Agriculture and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reconsider the appropriateness of listing *Brucella abortus* as a bioterrorist agent to help facilitate research into the transmission of the pathogen to cattle and domestic bison and to develop an effective livestock vaccine. We support the resolution and thank Senator Mike Phillips for introducing this important legislation.

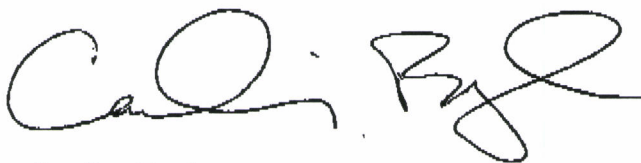
The Greater Yellowstone Coalition (GYC) is a regional conservation organization based in Bozeman, MT with offices in Idaho and Wyoming and over 40,000 members and supporters from across the country and within Montana. Our mission is to protect the lands, waters, and wildlife of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, now and for future generations. GYC has a long history of involvement with issues surrounding bison and brucellosis management and has spent more than 20 years working with landowners, agencies, and other organizations to find resolution to this issue.

The stated goals of the Interagency Bison Management Plan (IBMP) include maintaining a wild, free-ranging bison population and reducing the risk of brucellosis transmission from livestock to cattle. However, the requisite infrastructure and strict regulations associated with *Brucella abortus* listed as a Select Agent, make research cost-prohibitive and difficult, diminishing the likelihood of effective livestock vaccine development and reducing susceptibility of livestock to brucellosis.

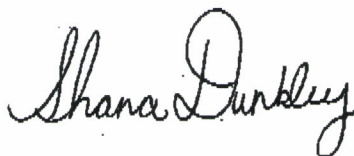
As stated in the resolution, final eradication of brucellosis may well be impossible in Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming as long as the reservoir of *Brucella abortus* in Greater Yellowstone elk and bison exists. Developing an effective cattle vaccine would significantly reduce the costly risk of transmission of *Brucella abortus* to Montana's livestock producer and the threat of heavy-handed management of our treasured wildlife. Furthermore, while other strains of *Brucella* such as *B. melitensis* and *B. suis* are highly pathogenic and known to pose a real danger to humans and animals, *B. abortus* rarely infects humans, is easily treated, and is not associated with life

threatening health concerns. Thus, we feel that removing *Brucella abortus* from the Select Agent list or adding it to a lower tier of pathogens to allow greater flexibility for research is warranted. We ask for your support of Senate Joint Resolution No.11.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Caroline Byrd', written in a cursive style.

Caroline Byrd
Executive Director
Greater Yellowstone Coalition

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shana Dunkley', written in a cursive style.

Shana Dunkley
Wildlife Program Associate
Greater Yellowstone Coalition